

Ancient Greek Architecture

Early Greek Civilizations - Mycenaeans

- Lions Gate
 - Cyclopean structure
- Gates around all their cities



Basis of Greek Architecture

The Temple



A closer look at the parts of a temple

- Pediment
- Frieze
- Capital
- Column
- Shaft
- Base



The bottom of the Temple

- Capital
 - Connecting piece between shaft and “cross beam”
- Column/Greek order
 - Of which there are three kinds...doric, ionic and corinthian
- Base
 - Consists of a foundation and steps on the outside



The top of the temple

- Pediment – the middle of the triangle – usually decorated
- Frieze – can be of a plain or ornate design – it is the top horizontal supporting beam



Doric Columns

- The plainest of all columns
- It tapers slightly as it gets higher



Ionic Columns

- The “medium ornate” columns
- Looks like an elaborate “I” or a ram’s horn



TEMPLE OF ATHENA NIKE



Corinthian Columns

- The MOST elaborate of all the columns
- Tends to look like a firework going off, producing lots of leaves and flowers



TEMPLE TO OLYMPIAN ZEUS





ERECTHEUM



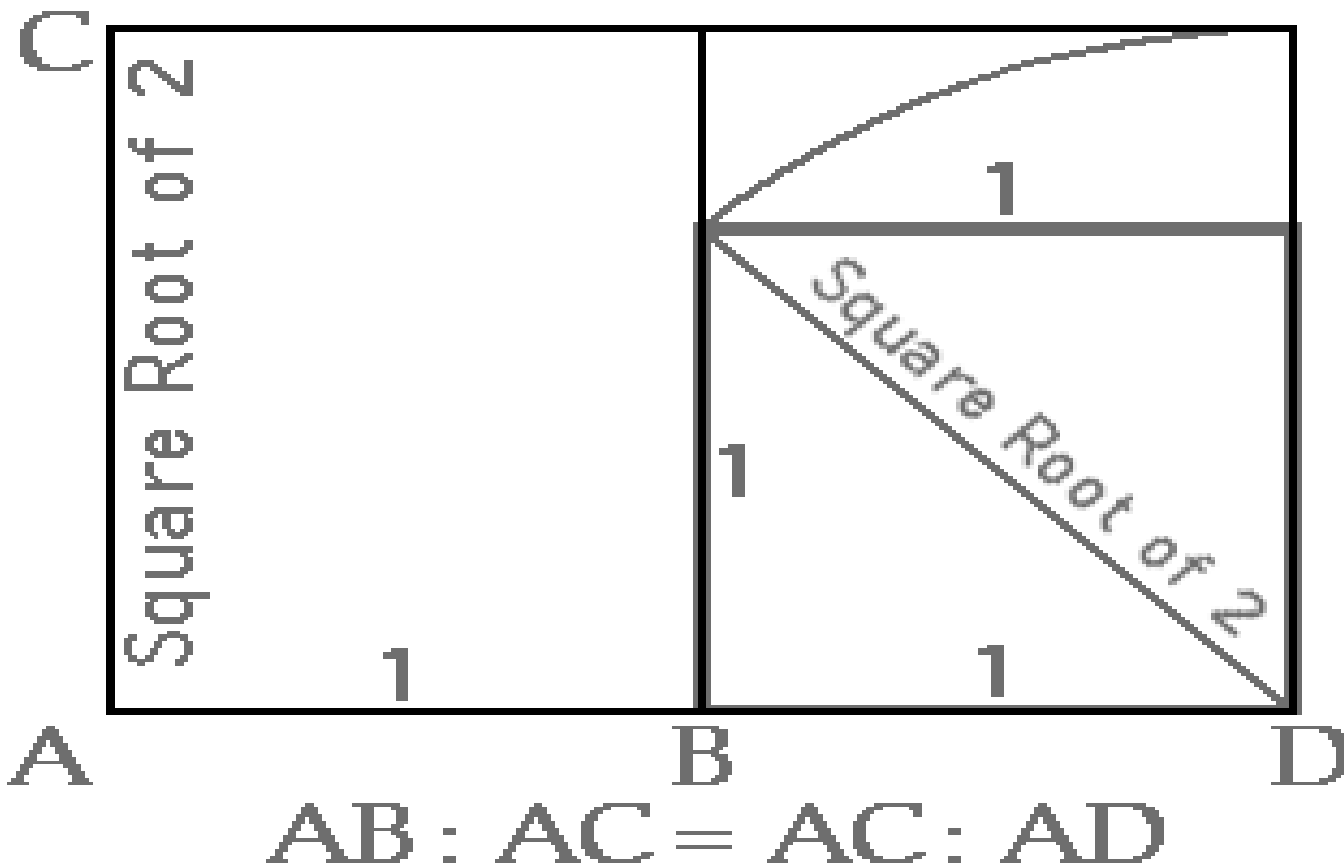
PORCH OF THE MAIDENS



Important Ideas of Temples

- It's alllliiivvvveeeeeee!
 - Similarity to human body
 - It flows
 - It's perfect!!!..the model for all of western architecture
 - Measured units – the bottom radius of the column...uses the golden rectangle
 - All other work was based off that number
- Greeks ♥ Being outside – it's all OPEN

Golden Mean

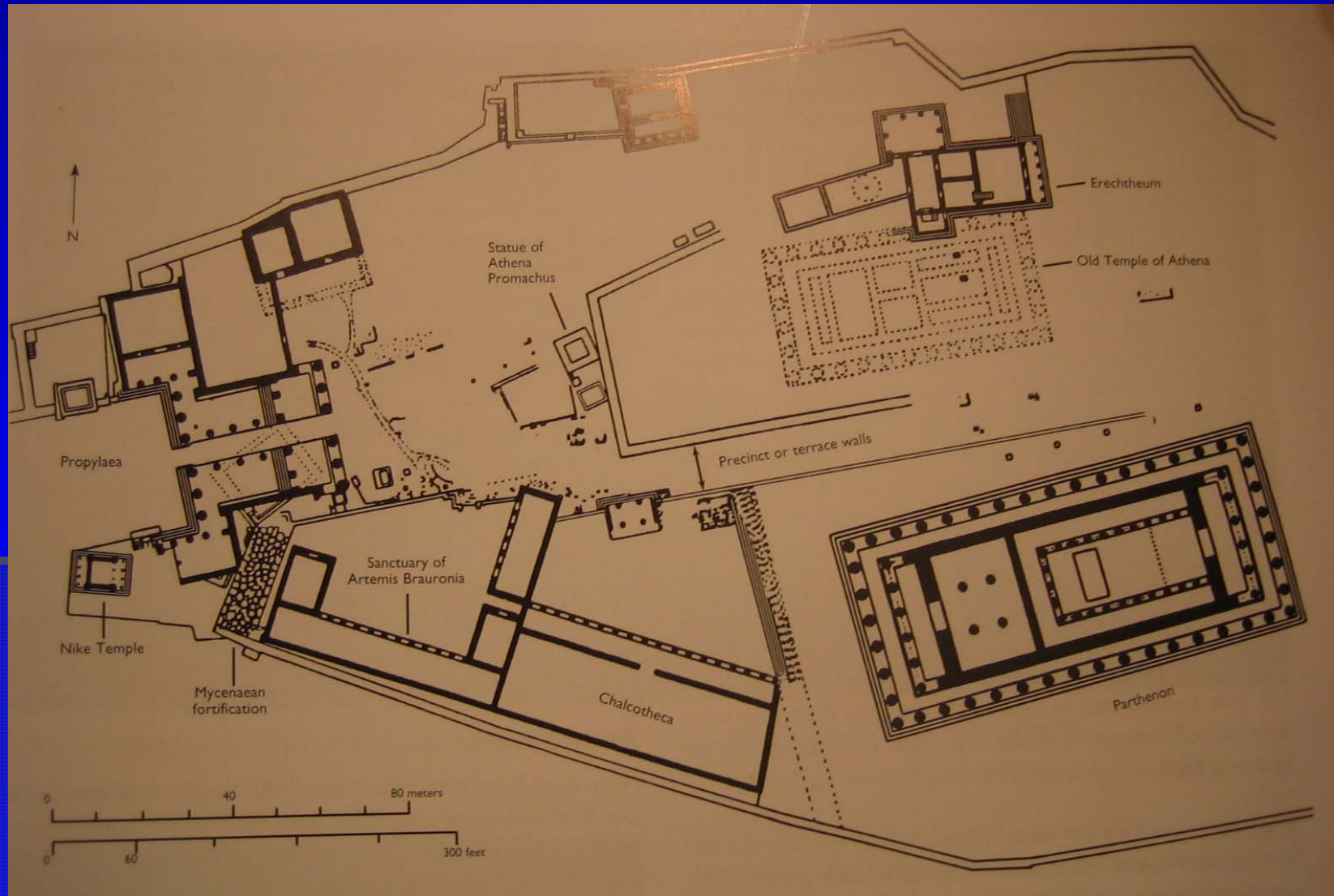


Important Greek
Structures you should
be able to identify

The Parthenon (at the Acropolis)



Acropolis Plan

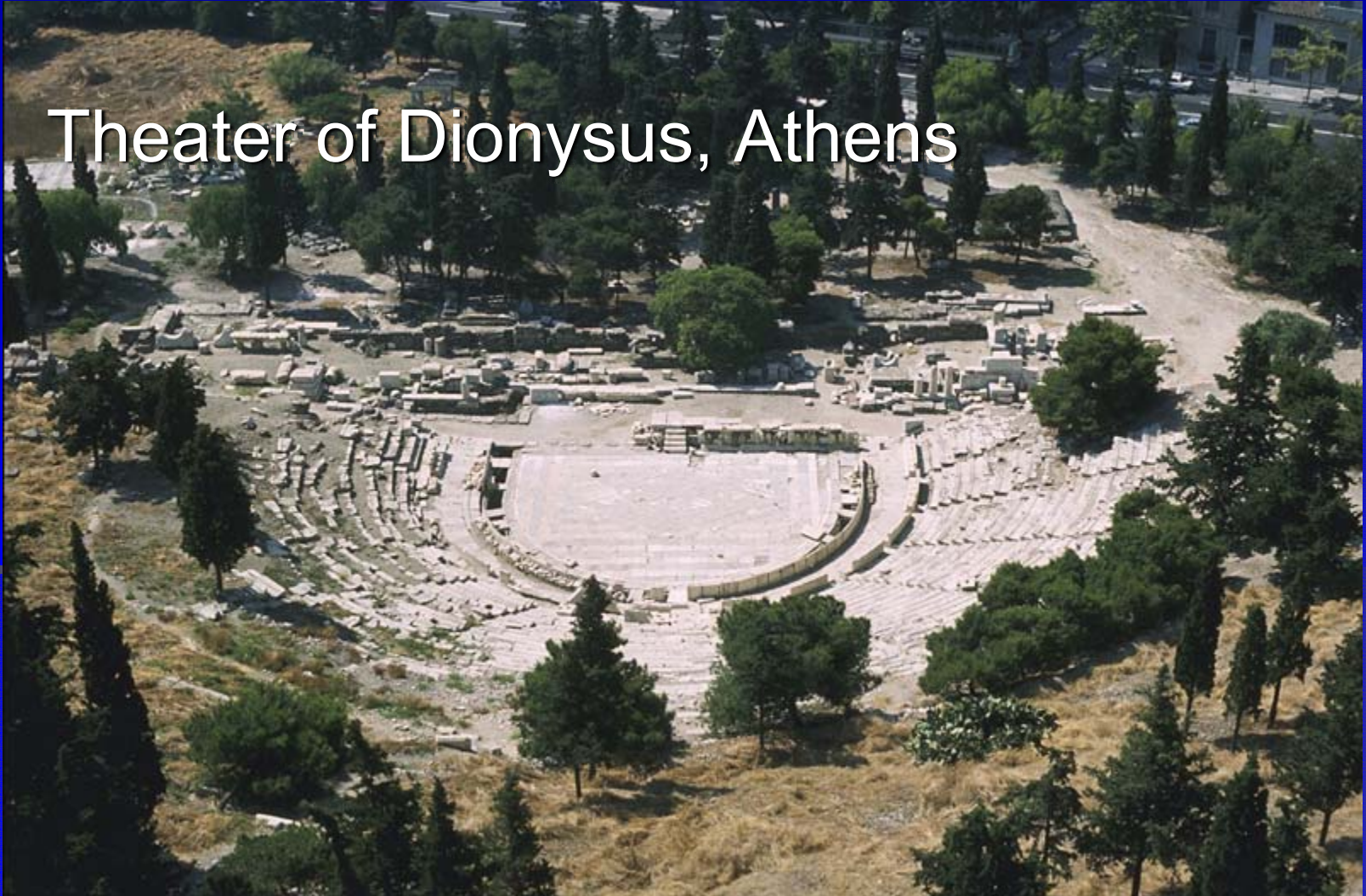


The Acropolis as a whole – a fortified agora on a hilltop



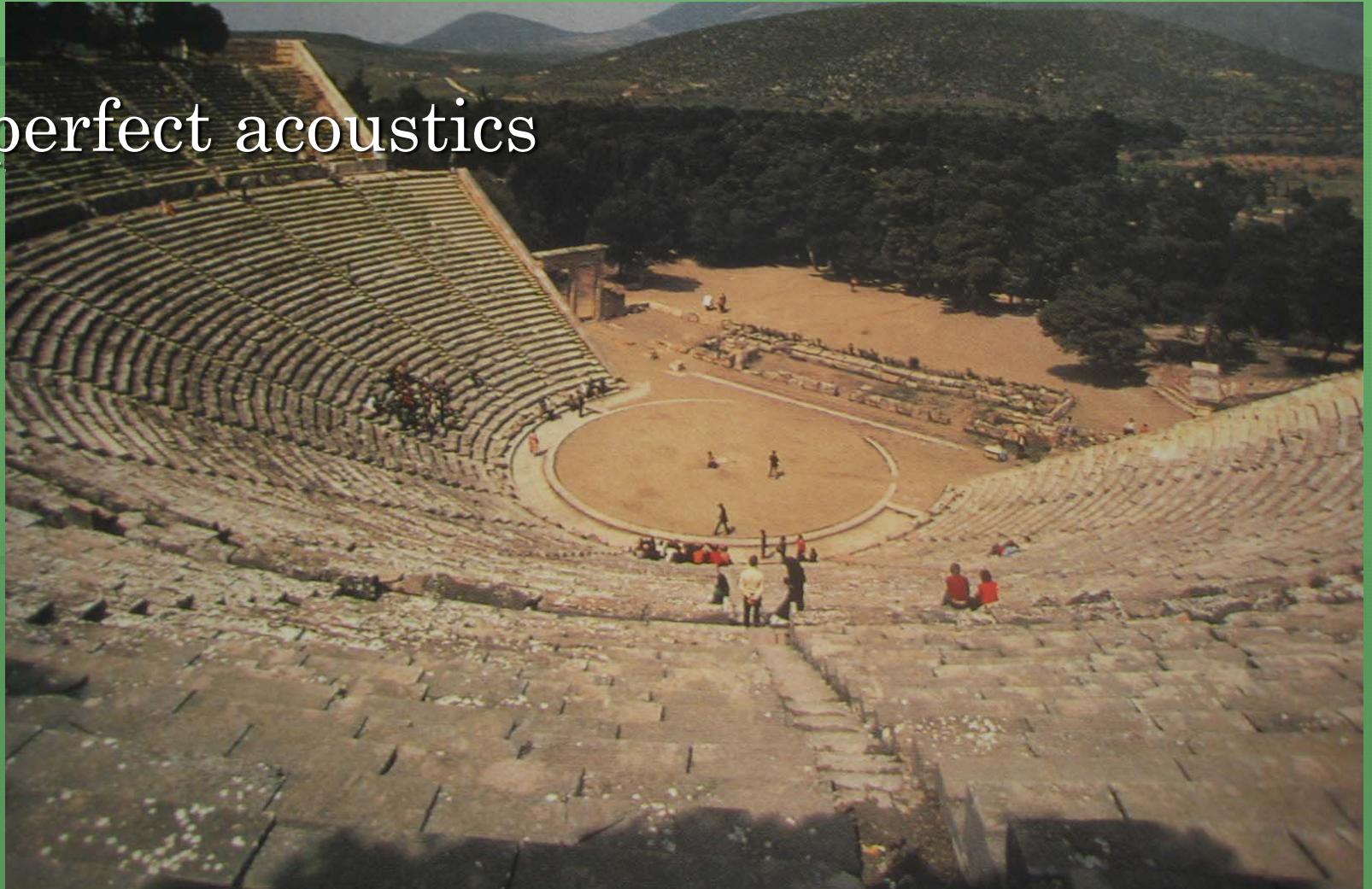
AMPHITHEATERS...

Theater of Dionysus, Athens



The Theater at Epidaurus

perfect acoustics



Modern Day Connections:

Buildings that use the Greek model
for architecture

The NY Stock Exchange



The New York City Hall Building



The US Supreme Court Building



QUINCY MARKET (Boston, MA)– Uses the agora style



Greek Architecture

Conclusion

- Architecture thus is part of the Western heritage of ideas that the Greeks began and which we still use today

GREEK SCULPTURE

- Archaic Period: 900-500 B.C.
- Classical Period: 500-350 B.C.
- Hellenistic Period: 350-100 B.C.

TWO TYPES OF SCULPTURE...

- in the round



- in relief



Archaic Sculpture:

- Stiff
- Blocky
- Arms at sides (males)
- Stylized
- Weight evenly balanced
- Left foot forward
- Archaic smile
- Male/kouros; female/kore
- Males usually nude, females clothed



- Kouros
- 525 B.C.



archaic

KORE

- females usually clothed
- one outstretched arm to offer something to the gods



THE TRANSITION...

Classical.

- The Charioteer of Delphi
- 470 B.C.
- bronze





Transition: severe style..



- Poseidon/Zeus
- c. 460 B.C.
- Found by fishermen in 1928

Classical Sculpture



- 7 heads tall
- Perfect
- Natural, not realistic
- No emotion on face
- Classical profile
- Before or after the action

Classical

- Spearbearer
- 440 B.C.





- “Diadoumenos”
- 430 B. C.
- Attributed to Polykleitos

Classical

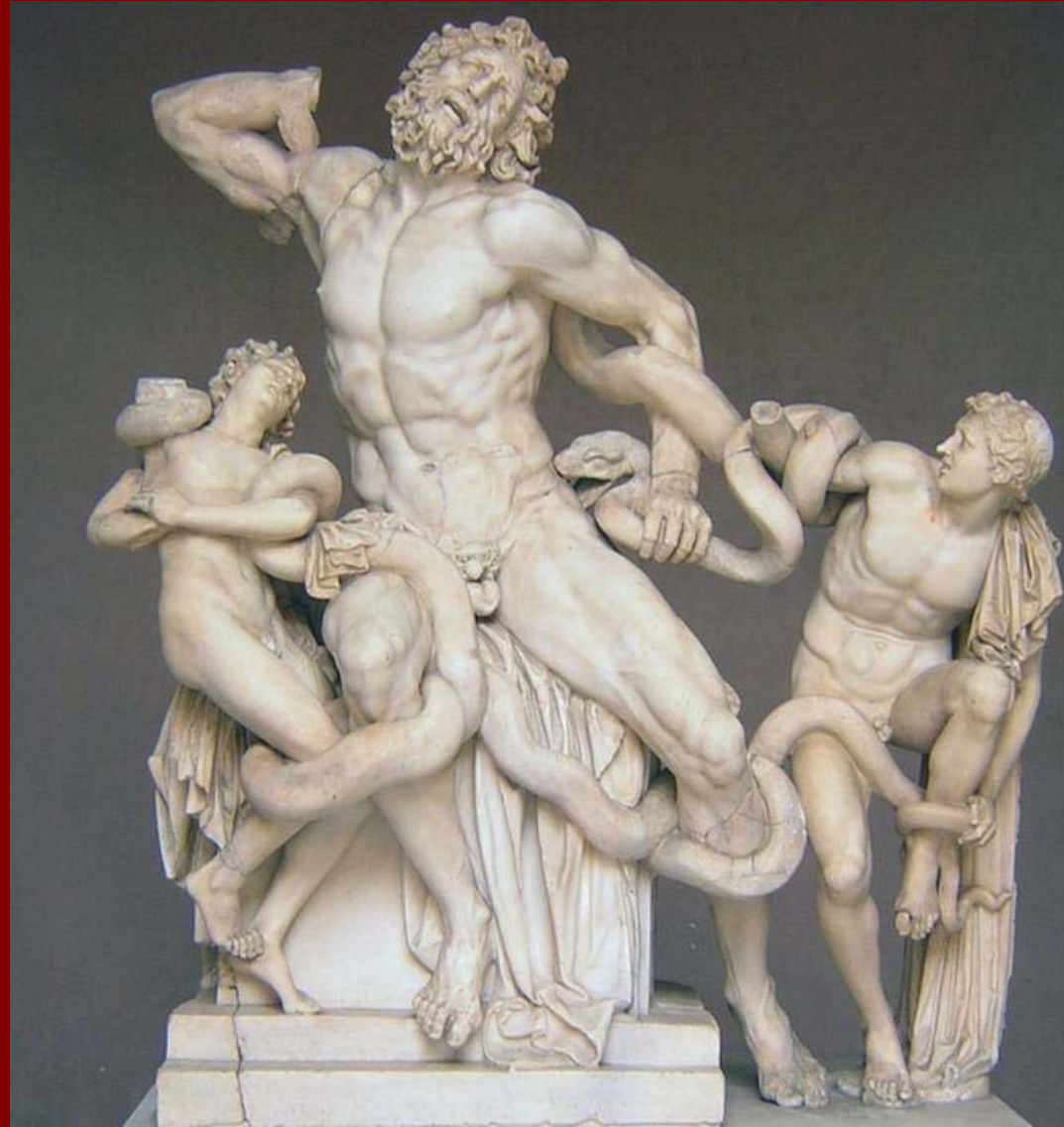
..Hermes with the
infant Dionysus

..attributed to Praxiteles



Hellenistic Sculpture

- Often realistic, not perfect
- Emotion
- In action







Hellenistic

- NIKE OF SAMOTHRACE
- “WINGED VICTORY”

Hellenistic

- The Old Market Woman
- Metropolitan Museum of Art



Conclusion:

- The Romans conquered the Greeks in the 1st century B.C., and took many examples of Greek sculpture back to Rome to decorate both public and private spaces. The Greek ideals were copied by the Romans, who spread them all over the Mediterranean world.